

We claim:

1. A method for reducing time to result in immunohematology assays, comprising :

- 5 (a) incubating a sample with antigen positive RBCs at 37°C with continuous agitation;
- (b) centrifuging the sample in an anti-IgG matrix for 10 minutes; and
- (c) reading the result.

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2. The method of claim 1 wherein the sample is plasma or serum.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the continuous
15 agitation is provided by a mechanical agitation block.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the continuous agitation is provided manually.

20 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the anti-IgG matrix comprises a gel.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the anti-IgG matrix comprises glass beads.

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7. The method of claim 1 wherein the anti-IgG matrix is disposed in a microtube.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the antigen
30 positive RBCs in step (a) is admixed with a low ionic strength diluent.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the low ionic strength diluent is less than about 0.03 M.

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10. A method for reducing time to result in immunohematology assays, comprising :

- 5 (a) providing a microtube containing an upper chamber and a lower chamber which contains an anti-IgG matrix for separating agglutinated from non-agglutinated cells;
- (b) admixing a sample with antigen positive RBCs;
- 10 (c) depositing the product of the admixture of step (b) to the upper chamber of the microcolumn;
- (d) incubating the product of the admixture of step (b) at 37°C with continuous agitation for 2 minutes;
- (e) centrifuging the microtube; and
- 15 (f) reading the result.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein the sample is plasma or serum.

20 12. The method of claim 10 wherein the continuous agitation is provided by a mechanical agitation block.

13. The method of claim 10 wherein the continuous agitation is provided manually.

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14. The method of claim 10 wherein the anti-IgG matrix comprises a gel.

15. The method of claim 10 wherein the anti-IgG matrix comprises glass beads.

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16. The method of claim 10 wherein the red blood cells in step (b) are admixed with a low ionic strength diluent.

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17. The method of claim 16 wherein the low ionic strength diluent is less than about 0.03 M.

18. A method for reducing time to result in immunohematology assays, comprising :

(a) providing a microtube containing an upper chamber and a lower chamber which contains an anti-IgG matrix for separating agglutinated from non-agglutinated cells;

(b) depositing a red blood cell sample to the upper chamber of the microcolumn;

(c) incubating the microcolumn at 37°C with continuous agitation for 2 minutes;

(d) centrifuging the microcolumn; and

(e) reading the result.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein the continuous agitation is provided by a mechanical agitation block.

20. The method of claim 18 wherein the continuous agitation is provided manually.

21. The method of claim 18 wherein the anti-IgG matrix comprises a gel.

22. The method of claim 18 wherein the anti-IgG matrix comprises glass beads.

23. The method of claim 18 wherein the red blood cells in step (b) are admixed with a low ionic strength diluent.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein the low ionic strength diluent is less than about 0.03 M.